

Delaware and Hudson Railroad Corporation, Excerpts from the Minutes of the Meetings of the Board of Directors, May 25, 1932—December 30, 1936

By S. Robert Powell, Ph.D.

Having read Delaware and Hudson Canal Company Minutes of Board of Directors Meetings (also meetings of subordinate committees of the Board of Directors and meetings of the D&H Stockholders), May 25, 1932—December 30, 1936 (meetings held in the Office of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company, New York City), we have selected therefrom, for presentation here, data and facts that are important in the history of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and/or the Delaware and Hudson Railroad which are not generally known about the D&H or which are not reported in public or private documents or archives.

1. **D&H Railroad Corporation Sells 20.42 Acres of Land in Township of Texas and Borough**

of Honesdale: Board of Directors meeting, May 25, 1932: "President Loree in the Chair. On motion, duly seconded, the following preamble and resolutions were universally adopted: WHEREAS, the officers of this corporation in its name and on its behalf have contracted to sell and convey to The Jefferson Railroad Company and the Wayne County Historical Society for a consideration of Sixty-five Thousand Dollars, all its right, title, and interest in and to all those certain pieces or parcels of land, with structures and tracks thereon situated in the Township of Texas and Borough of Honesdale, County of Wayne and State of Pennsylvania, containing Twenty and Forty-two One Hundredths (20.42) acres be the same more or less, which property is described, as follows, in the deed to be delivered to said The Jefferson Company and The Wayne County Historical Society, to wit: [6-page itemized list of deeds and properties in question presented]."

2. **Pensions Authorized:** Executive Committee meeting, June 29, 1932: "President Loree in the Chair. **Account of Age:** Effective May 1, 1932: **James P. Corrigan**, age 71, Drill Machine operator, Carbondale, 55 years and 11 months of continuous service, \$46.99; **Carmino Tomaine**, age 73, Room Attendant and Laborer, Carbondale; 45 years and 2 months of continuous service, \$43.03; **Account Physical Disability:** Effective April 1, 1932: **Michael J. Brennan**, age 67, Carpenter Helper, Carbondale, 39 years and 8 months of continuous service, \$23.91; Effective May 1, 1932: **Clark Dix**, age 69, Fire Cleaner, Hostler Helper and Hostler, Carbondale, 27 years and 4 months of continuous service, \$44.30."

3. **Pensions Authorized:** Executive Committee Meeting, September 26, 1932: " President Loree in the Chair. **Account of Age:** Effective May 1, 1932: **Hector Sampon**, age 73, Water Tender, Carbondale, 44 years and 7 months of continuous service, \$36.36; Effective July 1, 1932: **Henry Gramer**, Carbondale, Mason Foreman, Carbondale, 62 years and 10 months of continuous service, \$111.55; **Account Physical Disability:** Effective May 1, 1932: **John O'Boyle**, age 64, Chief Power Distributor, Carbondale, 46 years and 10 months of continuous service, \$121.15; **James Tomaine**, age 69, Laborer, Carbondale, 44 years and 5 months of continuous service, \$32.46."

4. **Platform Replacement at Carbondale; Combination Dining and Club Cars:** Executive Committee Meeting, October 26, 1932: "President Loree in the Chair. **Expenditures**

Authorized: STATION AND OFFICE BUILDINGS: D-5793 – Carbondale – Replacing wooden platform at passenger station with stone screenings and retirement of platform scales, \$530. Wooden platform in poor condition, and scales no longer necessary. **PASSENGER TRAIN CARS:** D-5796 Eq. Partitioning dining cars Nos. 606 and 607 with smoking stands, etc. to permit usage as combination dining and club cars, \$1,791.00. **PENSIONS.** Account Physical Disability: Effective September 1, 1932: **Andrew Leo**, age 65, Laborer, Carbondale, 43 years and 11 months of continuous service, \$29.45."

5. Death of Eugenius H. Outerbridge and Election of William Vincent Astor: Board of Directors meeting, January 25, 1933: "President Loree in the Chair. Mr. William Vincent Astor was nominated to fill the vacancy in the Board of Directors caused by the death of Mr. Eugenius H. Outerbridge, which nomination was seconded, and, on motion, duly seconded, the Secretary was unanimously directed to cast the ballots of all present in favor of Mr. William Vincent Astor as a member of the Board for the unexpired term of Mr. Eugenius H. Outerbridge. This was done and reported, and Mr. William Vincent Astor was thereupon declared duly elected a Director of the Corporation. / On motion, duly seconded, Mr. Edward D. Duffield was elected a member of the Executive Committee to fill the void caused by the death of Mr. Eugenius H. Outerbridge."

6. Reconditioning Keene Pond Dam: Executive Committee meeting, March 29, 1933: "President Loree in the Chair. **EXPENDITURES AUTHORIZED:** Miscellaneous Physical Property: D-5815: Keene – Reconditioning Keen Pond Dam to stop leakage in headwall, as requested by State Department of Forests and Waters, \$1,855.00."

7. D&H Directors for 1933: Annual Meeting of Stockholders, April 4, 1933: "Meeting called to order by H. L. Petersen. D&H Directors elected: Leonor F. Loree, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Henry W. deForest, Charles S. Weston, E. Roland Harriman, John Wyckoff Mettler, Theodore Pratt, George Welwood Murray, I. Hasbrouck Chahoon, J. Taber Loree, Edward D. Duffield, William L. Gillespie, Vincent Astor."

8. Annual Salaries of D&H Officers 1933: Board of Directors meeting, April 26, 1933: "President and Chairman of Executive Committee, L. F. Loree, \$50,000; Vice President and General Manager, J. T. Loree, \$25,000; Vice President, F. W. Leamy, \$12,500; Secretary, J. W. Coon, \$5,000; Treasurer, W. H. Davies, \$10,000; Assistant Treasurer and Transfer Agent, G. L. Dover, \$5,000; Comptroller, H. D. Chamberlain, \$6,000; Assistant Comptroller, W. W. Cox, \$4,000."

9. Stephen H. Chubb Pension Authorized: Executive Committee Meeting, May 31, 1933: "President Loree in the Chair. **Account Age:** Effective December 1, 1932: Stephen H. Chubb, age 72, Lampman Carbondale, 19 years and 3.5 months continuous service, \$16.24."

10. Sale by D&H of Eight Properties in Wayne and Lackawanna Counties, Pennsylvania: Board of Directors Meeting, May 31, 1933: President Loree in the Chair. WHEREAS, the officers of this Corporation in its name and on its behalf have contracted to sell and convey to William C. Headley and Clarence E. Bodie; George A. Price, Jr. and his wife Ruth A. Price, Edward P. Edwards and Dorothy V. Edwards his wife, and Louis Nowabilski for the consideration of Three Thousand Six Hundred (\$3,600) Dollars all its right, title and interest in

and to all those Eight certain pieces or parcels of land, with the structures thereon, situated in Townships of Carbondale and Canaan, Borough of Waymart, Counties of Wayne and Lackawanna and State of Pennsylvania, containing Thirty-eight and Six Hundred Fifty-nine One Thousandths (38.659) acres, be the same more or less, which property is described as follows, in the deeds to be delivered to said William C. Headley and Clarence E. Bodie, George A. Price, Jr., and Ruth A. Price, his wife, Edward P. Edwards and Dorothy V. Edwards, his wife, and Louis Nowabilski, to wit: [text of deeds presented]..."

11. Property Abandoned: Executive Committee meeting, June 28, 1933: "President Loree in the Chair. The President reported the abandonment of the following property: DA 1979: Cooperstown Junction and Esperance – Tool House; DA – 1991: Pells (Ft. Ticonderoga) Passenger station, freight house, platform and cattle pass; DA – 1994: Schenectady and Glenville Junction - 2 Tool houses and roadmaster's office building; DA -1995: Sidney – Car department blacksmith shop; DA1996: Ballston Lake – Combination freight and passenger station; DA – 2001: Schenectady - Car Department blacksmith shop."

12. Pensions Authorized: Executive Committee meeting, September 27, 1933: "Col. J. Taber Loree in the Chair. **Account Age**, Effective January 1, 1933: **Frank A. Ferrel**, age 76, Lampman, Carbondale, 53 years and 11.5 months of continuous service, \$47.08; Effective August 1, 1933: **James J. Bryden**, age 70, Carpenter, Carbondale, 56 years and 8 months of continuous service, \$69.24; Effective October 1, 1933: **Samuel E. Banker**, age 70, Engineer – Penna. Division, 45 years and 11 months of continuous service, \$110.32.

13. Personnel Changes on D&H Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting, December 27, 1933: "President Loree in the Chair. The President presented the resignation of Mr. Edward D. Duffield as a member of the Board of Directors, explaining that this step was taken by Mr. Duffield on account of pressure of other business, and, on motion, duly seconded. Mr. Duffield's resignation was reluctantly accepted. [Board of Directors meeting, March 28, 1934: William A. Anderson was named to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Edward D. Duffield.] The President also presented the resignation of Mr. William Vincent Astor as a member of the Board of Directors, stating that this step was necessary in view of the Interstate Commerce Commission's denial of Mr. Astor's application for permission to act as a Director of this corporation, and, on motion, duly seconded, Mr. Astor's resignation was reluctantly accepted. [Board of Directors' meeting, January 31, 1934; Honorable Nathan L. Miller was named to fill this vacancy.]"

14. Equipment and Abandonments: Executive Committee meeting, January 1, 1934: "President Loree in the Chair. **WORK EQUIPMENT:** D-5898 Eq. Converting Coach #11 into Pay Car #653 and retiring Pay Car #652, \$18,931.03; **YARD TRACKS AND SIDINGS:** D-5765: Whitehall – Constructing new freight yard; \$265,748.00. / The president reported the abandonment of the following equipment: 52 box cars, 21 gondolas, 1 caboose, 12 passenger coaches, 2 locomotives, and 1 coach connected to pay car. / **ABANDONMENT OF PROPERTY:** DA - 2037: Carbondale - Wigwag crossing signals at Garfield Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Wayne Street, and Tenth Avenue."

15. Water Tank Installation at Carbondale: Executive Committee Meeting, March 28, 1934: "President Loree in the Chair. WATER STATIONS: D-5899: Carbondale. Installing second-hand Water Tank along southbound main track, \$3,655.00."

16. D&H Board of Directors for 1934: Annual Meeting of Stockholders. April 3, 1934: Directors Elected: Leonor F. Loree, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Henry W. deForest, Charles S. Weston, E. Roland Harriman, John Wyckoff Mettler, George Wellwood Murray, I. Hasbrouck Chahoon, J. Taber Loree, William L. Gillespie, Nathan L. Miller, William A. Anderson.

17. Enlightened Promotion of D&H by President Loree: Executive Committee meeting, April 25, 1934: "President Loree in the Chair. The President informed the Committee that it has been the practice for this Company to permit its employees to participate in military and naval maneuvers during the summer, and to reimburse married men the full difference between the State or Government pay and their estimated railroad earnings, and single men one half of the difference. The President further stated that about fifty men would participate during the coming summer, and recommended that a sum not exceeding \$1,000 be appropriated for the purpose of partially reimbursing employees participating in military and naval maneuvers. / On motion, duly seconded, the President's recommendation was approved."

The President recommended that this Corporation exhibit at the World's Fair at Chicago, in 1934, a model of the locomotive "Stourbridge Lion" and also, to illustrate the progress in the development of locomotive construction, one of our new high steam pressure locomotives. / He stated that the entire cost of the exhibit, including leased space, movement of the locomotive and model, salary of attendant, advertising, etc. would be about \$11,000. / On motion duly seconded, the President's recommendation was approved."

18. Fifty 55-Ton Capacity Triple Hopper Cars Ordered: Executive Committee meeting, June 27, 1934: President Loree in the Chair. Expenditures Approved: FREIGHT TRAIN CARS: D – 5912 – Eq. Constructing 50 Triple Hopper cars of 55- ton capacity to be numbered in series 4402-4451, \$101, 200."

19. Three Thousand Tons of Rails and Other Track Material Ordered: Executive Committee meeting, March 27, 1935: "President Loree in the Chair. The President recommended an appropriation of \$169,500, representing a net road and equipment expenditure covering proposed rail purchase for 1935, consisting of 3,000 tons of rail and other track material, and, on motion duly seconded, the foregoing expenditure was authorized."

20. D&H Directors for 1935 Elected: Annual meeting of D&H Stockholders, April 2, 1935: Leonor F. Loree, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Henry W. deForest, Charles S. Weston, E. Roland Harriman, John Wyckoff Mettler, William A. Anderson, Theodore Pratt, George Wellwood Murray, I. Hasbrouck Chahoon, J. Taber Loree, William L. Gillespie, Nathan L. Miller.

21. Rice Coal Company Buys D&H Honesdale Branch Lands: Board of Directors meeting, May 29, 1935: "President Loree in the Chair. WHEREAS, the officers of this corporation in its name and on its behalf have contracted to sell and convey to Rice Coal Company for a consideration of Thirty-one Thousand (\$31,000), all its right, title and interest in and to all those

eighty-five certain pieces or parcels of land, with structures thereon situated in the Townships of Texas, Canaan, South Canaan, Carbondale, and Fell, Boroughs of Honesdale, Prompton, and Waymart, Counties of Lackawanna and Wayne and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, being a portion of the lands occupied by the abandoned Honesdale Branch of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad Corporation containing Two hundred Sixty-six and Thirty-Nine One-Hundredths (266.39) acres, more or less described as follows, in the deed delivered to the Rice Coal Company, to wit.....[85 properties named and described; Parcel No 54 is the George F. Munson farm, deed dated May 23, 1901. George Munson's wife, Edna, was a sister of Helen (Russell) Powell's maternal grandmother, Mary Emma (Squire) Loomis. S. Robert Powell is a son of Walter and Helen Powell.]

22. D&H Sells Eighty-Three Lake Lodore Boats: Executive Committee meeting, December 24, 1935: "Vice-President J. Taber Loree in the Chair. "PROPERTY ABANDONED DA - 2162 Waymart, 83 boats acquired with Lake Lodore property, sold to various individuals."

23. Pension Awarded to John J. Kearney: Executive Committee Meeting, June 24, 1936: **Account Age:** Effective May 1, 1936: John J. Kearney, age 72, Yardmaster, Assistant Yardmaster and Traveling Car Tracer, Carbondale, 50 years and 2 months of continuous service, \$71.72.

24. D&H Officers and Executive Committee for 1936: BOARD OF DIRECTORS: L. F. Loree, President; J. T. Loree, Vice-President and General Manager; F. W. Leamy, Resident Vice-President; J. W. Coon, Secretary; H. L. Peterson, Assistant Secretary; W. H. Davis, Treasurer; G. L. Dover, Assistant Treasurer. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: L. F. Loree, Chairman; Cornelius Vanderbilt, John Wyckoff Mettler, Charles S. Weston, George Welwood Murray.

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NOTE: This is the 11th and final article of excerpts from the three volumes of D&H corporate minutes in the collection of the Carbondale Historical Society. The three volumes: (1) "Minutes. Volume No. 6: January 5, 1894—December 30, 1903, Inc. Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, 498 pages"; (2) "Minutes. Volume No. 7: January 27, 1904—January 2, 1907, Inc. The Delaware and Hudson Company, 312 pages; and (3) "Minutes. No. 1: December 4, 1928—December 30, 1936, The Delaware and Hudson Railroad Corporation, 478 pages."

In reading those three volumes (which contain 1,288 pages of data about the D&H over a period of 22 years), we have learned—and presented here--a great many facts that are important in the history of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and/or the Delaware and Hudson Railroad which are not generally known about the D&H or which are not reported in public or private documents or archives.